

Appl. No.: 09/748,890

Amdt. Dated January 7, 2004

Reply to Office Action dated October 8, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancel) A method for meter cost accounting using a web browser-based shipping system comprising the steps of:

(a) operatively connecting a meter to a client for enabling said meter to perform a transaction;

(b) running a web browser program on said client for communicating with a web server;

(c) running a meter application on said web server;

(d) identifying a user/account;

(e) performing said transaction; and

(f) updating a cost accounting table located on the web server with said transaction information relative to said user account.

2. (cancel) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transferring transaction information to a customer accounting system.

3. (cancel) The method of claim 2, wherein said transfer is completed through extended markup language.

4. (cancel) The method of claim 2, wherein said transfer is completed through scraping.

5. (cancel) The method of claim 1, wherein said cost accounting table further comprises a meter table and an account table.

6. (currently amended) A method for postage meter cost accounting using a web browser based shipping system comprising the steps of:

- Q2
- (a) operatively connecting a postage meter to a client;
 - (b) running a web browser program on said client for communicating with a web server;
 - (c) running a postage meter application on said web server that communicates with at least one cost accounting table that includes the date of the meter transaction; the transaction identification, the meter account number; and the total count of pieces processed by the meter;
 - (d) running a postage meter automation server on said client;
 - (e) communicating between said automation server and said web server using a script call;
 - (f) identifying a user account;
 - (g) performing a transaction; and
 - (h) updating [a]the cost accounting table with information relative to said transaction.

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7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said script call is JAVASCRIPT.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of transferring transaction information to a customer accounting system.

9. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said transfer is completed through extended mark up language.

10. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said transfer is completed by scraping.

11. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said cost accounting table further comprises a meter table and an account table.

12. (cancel) A system for postage meter cost accounting using a web browser based postal mail shipping system comprising:

(a) a postage meter operatively connected to a client for performing a meter transaction;

(b) a web browser program running on said client for communicating with a web server; and

(c) a postage meter application running on said web server, said postage meter application updating a cost accounting table with said information relative to said postage meter transaction;

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- (d) identifying a user account;
- (e) performing said transaction; and
- (f) updating said cost accounting table with said transaction information.

13. (cancel) The system of claim 12 further including a means for transferring information to a customer cost accounting system.

14. (cancel) The system of claim 13 wherein said transfer is completed through extended mark up language.

15. (cancel) The system of claim 13 wherein said transfer is completed by scraping.

16. (cancel) The system of claim 12, wherein said cost accounting table further comprises a meter table and an account table.